

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 03064 241846Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----041814 250059Z /15

R 241642Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5527  
INFO AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
COMUSFORAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3064

EXDIS

COMUSFORAZ HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PO  
SUBJECT: ALLEGATIONS OF U.S. ARMING OF AZOREAN SEPARATISTS

1. THE LEADER OF THE CENTER DEMOCRATIC PARTY, FREITAS DO AMARAL, AND HIS PARTY'S FOREIGN POLICY SPOKESMAN, AZEVEDO COUTINHO, HAVE EACH TOLD ME IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS OF REPORTS CIRCULATING WITHIN THE GOP TO THE EFFECT THAT THE AZOREAN SEPARATISTS HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED SOME ARMS FROM U.S. OFFICIAL SOURCES. ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS, THE ARMING OF THE AZOREANS WAS DONE BY THE "PENTAGON" WHICH IS SAID TO HAVE A DIFFERENT POLICY THAN THE STATE DEPARTMENT WITH REGARD TO AZOREAN SEPARATISM. THE ARMS DELIVERIES WERE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN PUT ASHORE IN THE AZORES IN VESSELS PROVIDED BY THE U.S. MILITARY. IN BOTH CONVERSATIONS I DID MY EMPHATIC BEST TO KNOCK DOWN THESE RUMORS, PARTICULARLY SINCE BOTH MEN OBVIOUSLY WERE TAKING THE REPORT SERIOUSLY.

2. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT ILLUSTRATES THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF THE GOP WITH REGARD TO THE AZOREAN  
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SEPARATIST QUESTION AND ESPECIALLY THE LATENT FEARS IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT THAT THE AZOREAN SEPARATISTS WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN SUPPORT FROM U.S. SOURCES. OBVIOUSLY IT IS TO THE SEPARATISTS' ADVANTAGE TO PLAY UPON THESE FEARS. I WOULD THEREFORE URGE U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO SHUN ANY CONTACTS WITH AZOREAN SEPARATISTS, WHO ARE CAPABLE OF SEEKING SUCH CONTACTS IF ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE

OF CREATING THE IMPRESSION OF USG SUPPORT FOR THEIR CAUSE.

3. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, FREITAS DO AMARAL IS CONSERVATIVE,  
AND NOT GIVEN TO LOOSE TALK. I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LIGHT  
WASHINGTON AGENCIES CAN SHED ON THESE ALLEGATIONS.  
BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, ALLEGATIONS, LIBERATION FRONTS, AZORES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LISBON03064  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014